

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 912, and 15-19 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 11, and 17 are independent.

The specification has been amended to provide a claim to priority and to overcome the objection to the Drawings, as kindly suggested by the Examiner.

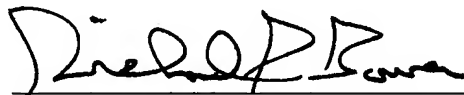
Claims 1-7, 9-13 and 15-19 were rejected as being unpatentable over Cole, Ellner, Kurtz, Flatow and European Patent Application (EP 0467465 A1), for the reasons discussed on page three of the Office Action. However, the Examiner kindly indicated allowable subject matter in Claims 8 and 14. Therefore, while specifically traversing the art rejections, and preserving Applicant's right to file a continuation application to pursue the broad but patentable claims, Applicant has incorporated subject matter from the allowable dependent claims into the independent claims solely to secure immediate allowance thereof.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for

allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Rosen", is written over a horizontal line.

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